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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETEL, IMCO

SUBJ: INMARSAT CONFERENCE - RULES OF PROCEDURE

REF: STATE 64187

- 1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH IMCO LEGAL AND NAVIGATIO SECTIONS. IN GENERAL, IMCO SECRETARIAT POINTED OUT THAT INMARSAT RULES OF PROCEDURE (ROP) BASED ON IMCO ASSEMBLY ROP AND FOLLOW SIMILAR RULES USED AT IMCO CONFERENCES IN PAST SUCH AS SOLAS 74.
- 2. COMMENTS ON POINTS A THROUGH E REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:
 (A) INMARSAT RULE 11 FOLLOWS SAME LANGUAGE AS IMCO
 ASSEMBLY RULE 48. NO PROVISION IS INCLUDED IN EITHER FOR
 STATEMENTS FOR OR AGAINST PRESIDENT'S RULING SINCE OBJECT
 OF RULE IS TO LIMIT DEBATE ON POINT OF ORDER. ASSEMBLY
 RULE 49 AND INMARSAT RULE 14 INCORPORATE LANGUAGE WHICH
 PERMITS STATEMENTS ON 4 TYPES OF MOTIONS LISTED THEREIN.
- (B) WHILE SECRET BALLOT PROCEDURE IS NOT SPELLED OUT IN ROP, SECRETARIAT CONSIDERS THERE NO REASON WHY SECRET BALLOTS COULD NOT BE USED WHEN REQUESTED AND AGREED BY REPRESENTATIVES
- (C) SECRETARIAT VIEW IS THAT THERE NOTHING TO PREVENT DELEGATION FROM VOTING IF DELEGATE ELECTED TO PRESIDENCY UNCLASSIFIED

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OR VICE PRESIDENCY SINCE IT EXPECTED THAT ALTERNATE

WOULD AS MATTER OF COURSE BE APPOINTED TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

- (D) IMPLICATION SUGGESTED PARA (D) NOT INTENDED. RULE INTERPRETED TO REFER TO RELATED PROPOSALS.
- (E) EDITORIAL CORRECTION PROPOSED APPEARED TO SECRETARIAT TO HAVE MERIT, BUT THEY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT LANGUAGE IN RULE 35 MARSAT SAME AS IN RULE 60(2) OF ATHENS LEGAL CONFERENCE, AS WELL AS RULE 32 OF SOLAS 74.
- 2. COMMENT: SECRETARIAT POINTED OUT PROPOSED MARSAT ROP BASED ON IMCO ASSEMBLY ROP AS IS CUSTOM FOR ALL CONFER-ENCES SPONSORED BY IMCO. GREATER DETAIL IN ROP PREPARED FOR ATHENS LEGAL CONFERENCE ATTRIBUTED TO FACT THAT LEGAL DIVISION OF IMCO HAD PREPARED THOSE ROPS WHILE MARSAT ROPS AND THOSE FOR OTHER "TECHNICAL" CONFER-ENCES PREPARED BY TECHNICAL SECTION OF IMCO SECRETARIAT HAVING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS; IN CASE OF MARSAT THIS IS NAVIGATION SECTION. IN DISCUS-SING MARSAT ROPS WITH LEGAL DIVISION AND DE GOEDE, HEAD OF NAVIGATION SECTION. BOTH WERE OF THE OPINION THAT ROPS AS PROPOSED ARE ADEQUATE AND SHOULD PRESENT NO OPERATING DIFFICULTIES AT CONFERENCE. IN THIS REGARD, WE WERE ASKED TO MAKE OUR PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE IN ROPS IN WRITING TO IMCO IF CHANGES REFTEL ARE CONSIDERED INDES-PENSIBLE. HOWEVER, DE GOEDE SAID HE HOPED WE WOULD NOT SEE NEED TO PROPOSE CHANGES FORMALLY SINCE THIS COULD OPE UP WHOLE QUESTION OF ROPS WHICH ARE USUALLY ROUTINELY ACCEPTED AND LEAD TO LOSS OF TIME IN DEBATING ISSUE AT OPENING OF CONFERENCE.
- 3. RECOMMENDATION: IN VIEW OF EXPLANATIONS PROVIDED BY SECRETARIAT A-E ABOVE, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT NO FORMAL PROPOSAL BE PUT TO IMCO TO REVISE ROP. QUESTIONS WHICH DEPARTMENT MAY STILL WISH TO BE CLARIFIED COULD NO DOUBT BE RAISED AND AGREED AT HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING CONFERENCE.

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